



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS

Members

Mel Katz, Chair

Matthew Hervey • Susan Lew • Judy McCarty • MaryAnne Pinter • Natalie Rencher • Katie Sullivan

MINUTES

BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS

SAN DIEGO PUBLIC LIBRARY

Wednesday October 4, 2006

ATTENDANCE

Commissioners:

Present: Mel Katz, Matthew Hervey, Judy McCarty, MaryAnne Pinter, Katie Sullivan

Absent: Susan Lew, Natalie Rencher

Staff: Anna Tatár, Library Director; Darren Greenhalgh, Senior Civil Engineer; Jay Hill, Director of Development; Katie Boskoff, Assistant Director of Development; Carol Young, Senior Management Analyst

Public:

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m. in the Commission Room of the Central Library.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The September 2006 minutes were approved unanimously.

REQUESTS FOR CONTINUANCE

None.

NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

AGENDA ITEMS

10.a Library System Update

Darren Greenhalgh provided an update of library system projects.

College/Rolando Branch punch list of problems has been addressed.

Main Library site remediation should be completed by November.

Commissioner Katz asked about how ADA access has been addressed. Mr. Greenhalgh responded that the plan has been reviewed three times by the group that works with the City. Many of their suggestions have been incorporated into the design. The first floor was changed significantly per their recommendations. Additionally, an access consultant was hired to review the plans.

Commissioner Sullivan requested that a summary of the adopted accommodations be provided to the Commission. Staff was also asked to find out whether any members of ACCESS were members of the group reviewing the plans.

Ms. Tatár noted that a significantly expanded I Can! Center will provide services to persons with disabilities.

Construction of the North University Community Branch Library should be completed in the first quarter of 2007. Commissioner Pintar asked whether a high tech/biotech feature was going to be incorporated into the facility. Staff will look into the issue, and report back.

REPORT FROM THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY: Mel Katz

New Main Library architect Rob Quigley's half-hour presentation at the annual meeting was great. Commissioner Katz will be pursuing having the presentation filmed and aired on City access, Cox and Time-Warner television channels.

SERRA SYSTEM ADVISORY BOARD

No report.

CHAIR'S UPDATE: Mel Katz

Commissioner Katz reported that 18 letters had been published in response to the *Union-Tribune* article on the Main Library that ran the Saturday of Labor Day weekend, and only three of the letters were negative.

Forms are being handed out at Library events to get patrons signed up for e-mail access that will help with advocacy – 150 are already signed up.

Commissioner Katz mentioned the *Voice of San Diego* article which was from a county librarian's point of view. Ms. Tatár distributed a statistical comparison between the City and County library systems that was developed in response to the article. Commissioner Katz noted that Seattle's new main library had 2 million visitors and circulated 1.6 million items last year.

Commissioner Katz distributed a summary of library improvements that he developed for a meeting he had with the Mayor. The Mayor stated his commitment to the Main Library but did not specify whether changes would be made to the remainder of the Library Improvements

Program projects.

Commissioner Katz will be hosting a reception at the Manchester Grand Hyatt before the Philanthropy Day event at which Commissioner Hervey will be honored.

Meetings are continuing regarding Main Library fund raising. Library Foundation Board members are meeting regularly to close the financing gap.

DEPUTY CHIEF UPDATE

No report.

DIRECTOR'S UPDATE: Anna Tatár

- Jay Hill introduced Katie Boskoff, who is the new Assistant Director of Development. Commissioners Katz and Hervey were recognized for their support of the Philanthropy Day event. Mr. Hill reported that over \$200,000 has been raised for the matching funds to date. Volunteer Jay Wood has been working approximately 30 hours per week to convert records to the new fund raising software.

Bank of America provided a grant to fund the Summer Reading Program. More than 500 parents and caregivers responded to a survey about the program. Results will be utilized to help solicit future donors.

A list of needed branch library improvements has been requested by the Library Foundation to be taken to donors. A public relations firm is donating its services to the Foundation. Commissioner Pintar offered to assist Foundation committees.

- Ms. Tatár thanked Commissioner Sullivan for organizing the celebration and fund raising event in honor of the Scripps Miramar Ranch Branch Manager Nancy Assaf.
- The Library is going through Business Process Re-engineering (BPR). Six staff committees have been formed to look at how the Library does its primary business. A steering committee and facilitator oversees the process, which should result in how the department wants to function in an ideal environment. The Mayor will receive the final report and determine what aspects of the process will be implemented.

Commissioner McCarty suggested that committees look at the cost of services provided to non-City patrons, and consider alternatives to obtain reimbursements.

- Ms. Tatár reported that the MOU for the Environmental Library will not be continued, as Environmental Services will no longer pay for it. Alternatives are being investigated to try to retain the library. Commissioner Hervey suggested that the collection be moved to a new branch library facility.

Commissioner McCarty asked whether the Library has been given specific targets for staff

reductions as a result of BPR. Ms. Tatár responded no, but noted that many organizations going through the process expect to reduce their size by 15-20 percent. The Library has a BPR completion deadline of December, a very ambitious schedule given that the new integrated library system needs to be installed. The resulting efficiencies can then be implemented as part of the BPR.

- Local funding is being explored to continue Tutor.com, an online service that has been paid by Federal fund for the last two years. Commissioner Hervey noted that other for-profit online tutoring services are becoming available.

AGENDA ITEMS, Cont.

10.a Library System Update, Cont.

Motion

Motion made by Commissioner Sullivan that letters be sent from the Library Commission to Bank of America to state how much its generosity in support of the Summer Reading Program is appreciated, and to Jay Wood to thank him for his assistance in the Development Office.

Seconded by Commissioner McCarty.

Motion was passed unanimously.

10.b Budget Update

No report.

10.c Legislative Update

No report.

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Katz adjourned the meeting at 10:15 a.m.



ANNA TATÁR
Library Director

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